

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 03498 131707Z

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 PM-07 AF-10 EUR-25 USIE-00 SSO-00

NSCE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 MMS-03

ACDA-19 OMB-01 SAJ-01 TRSE-00 DRC-01 /143 W

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O 131435Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 222

INFO AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 3498

SINGAPORE FOR AMBASSADOR MOYNIHAN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR MARR IN US

SUBJECT: DEPUTY SECRETARY CLEMENTS' TESTIMONY

ON DIEGO GARCIA

1. UK HICOM HERE TOLD US THIS MORNING THEY HAD JUST RECEIVED CABLE FROM LONDON STATING THAT DEPUTY SECY OF DEFENSE CLEMENTS IN HIS TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE MARCH 12 STATED IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS THAT DOD PLANNED TO ASK FOR ADDITIONAL \$65-75 MILLION FOR EXPANSION OF DIEGO GARCIA, OVER AND ABOVE \$29 MILLION CURRENTLY BEING REQUESTED.

2. BRITISH CABLE ALSO REFERRED TO EXCHANGE ON B-52S. TICKERS HERE ARE REPORTING THAT DEPUTY SECRETARY CLEMENTS AND ADMIRAL MOORER AT FIRST AGREED WITH SENATOR SYMINGTON THAT WORK TO BE DONE ON THE AIRSTRIP WOULD FACILITATE ACCOMMODATING B-52S, TANKER PLANES, AND LARGE CARGO AIRCRAFT. THEY LATER RETRACTED THEIR EARLIER POSITION BUT ADMIRAL MOORER IS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT CONSIDERATION HAD BEEN GIVEN TO EXPANDING CONFIDENTIAL

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DIEGO GARCIA TO ACCOMMODATE B-52S AND THAT HE WOULD

SUPPORT SUCH A QME ON STRATEGIC CONSIDERATIONS.

3. IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT THESE TWO NEWS STORIES,  
PARTICULARLY THAT REGARDING THE B-52S, WILL GENERATE  
ANOTHER ANTI-US DISCUSSION IN THE INDIAN PARLIAMENT.  
WHILE WE SUPPORT THE BEST POSSIBLE JUSTIFICATION FOR  
DIEGO GARCIA BEFORE THE CONGRESS, WE HOPE WE CAN AVOID  
NEEDLESSLY STIRRING UP FURTHER LITTORAL OPPOSITION.  
WE WOULD APPRECIATE THE DEPARTMENT LETTING US HAVE  
THE FACTS REGARDING ADDITIONAL FUNDING AND THE B-52  
EXCHANGE AND PROVIDE US WITH GUIDANCE ON WHAT TO SAY.  
WE ARE LIKELY TO GET ANOTHER QUERY FROM MEA TOMORROW  
MORNING.

SCHNEIDER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 13 MAR 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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